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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/393,482 09/10/99 CHISNELL

J FTP139AUS

021133 PM82/1005
VANOPHEM MEEHAN & VANOPHEM
755 W BIG BEAVER
SUITE 1313
TROY MI 48084

EXAMINER

AROLA, D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3627

DATE MAILED: 10/05/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/393,482

Applicant(s)
J. H. Chisnell

Examiner
Dave W. Arola

Group Art Unit
3627



☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 2

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

Art Unit: 3627

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. For example, it is not clear in the claims if the ring(s) are in axial alignment with the crimps since "concentric" merely refers to elements having a common center. It is not clear how the ring performs the recited functions since the outer diameter of the ring and the inner diameter of the inner sleeve or the outer diameter of the ring and inner diameter of the groove have not been recited in such a manner that the recited reinforcement would result.

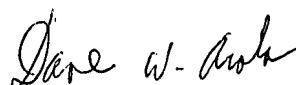
The patents are cited to show joint means.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Arola whose telephone number is (703) 308-2206. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 6:30 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Beth Anne Dayoan, can be reached on (703) 308-3865. The fax phone number for this technology center is (703) 305-3597.

Any inquiry of a general nature relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the technology center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-2168.

Arola
October 2, 2000


Dave W. Arola
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3627